Ulysser Ford P.O. Box 9365 New Haven, CT 06533 203-891-5337

February 13, 2011

Labor and Public Employees Committee

Dear Committee Members,

My name is Ulysser Ford and for the past three years I have been a Part Time adjunct professor at Southern Connecticut State University teaching within the Communications Department.

I am providing a testimony to the hearing on <u>S.B. No. 934</u> (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE REASONABLE ASSURANCE DOCTRINE UNDER THE UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION ACT

I support this bill. I am one of many professors who were laid off, and although I was told I may have a position in the future, it does not cover my financial expenses today.

I am considered disabled, I gave up my disability benefits in order to teach at Southern CT State University; I have already applied for food stamps and welfare. I feel penalized for working and having a higher education. A teaching career was the best thing that happened to me, it allowed me to utilize my educational and motivational skills; it gave me a purpose to live as a productive member of society without being labeled as disabled.

President Obama encourages and stresses the importance of having a higher education however it falls upon deaf ears when laws contradict having such a proper learning. As a Part-time Professor we are provided with teaching contracts obligating us to a certain time frame and that is all; there are no benefits except for what is provided by simply the joy of teaching. There is no medical coverage and there is no job guarantee of the next contract, but for the lack there of; there should be an Unemployment benefit which would provide financial security until the next job position; is that not what Unemployment is suppose to be? I am hoping that this testimony reaches you all in good health and financial stability.

Sincerely, Ulysser Ford